

**Solita Griffis**

**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Friday, October 01, 2010 11:12 AM  
**To:** Solita Griffis  
**Subject:** FW: Docket 10-145 comments

**FILED/ACCEPTED****OCT 15 2010**

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**Office of the Secretary**

**From:** Amber Boggs [mailto:rubyrue@socal.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 01, 2010 12:53 AM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** Docket 10-145 comments

TO whome ever it may concern,

I am a totally blind mother wife, and perficinal liveing in the US. I am delited that the FCC is working twards makeing cellphones accessable to blind and low vition people. The use of cell phones has become wide spread, and it is emparative that blind people such as myself are able to access our phones as any other citacant does. Further more, the ability to choose carrier and moddle and make of our phone is also crutal. Further more, we should not have to pay more for the software that makes our cell hone accessable.

As of now with Verizon wireless i have one choice of phone that I can use. It is a totally discontinued phone that I had to bye and then bye a 300 dolar software to make it accessable to me. And I am stuck useing it or not haveing a phone that will not talk and that I can not really use.

Further more, with so many aplacations and uses for phones, it is becomeing even more emparative that we are able to use any phone we want to.

Blind people can use the phone for GPS to get buss times, learn about our envirements find buss schedguals and so much more. It is emparative that the web brouser, contacts, and all other aplacations on the phone have text to speach. IE talk.

With out this, we are at a huge disadvantage among our pears. I hope that in the next year we will have equal access. Apple for example has made a screan reader that is built in. inableing all blind people to use there phone. They should be used as an example of what cell phone providers and manufacturers should do.

I am happy to share more of my experiences and frusterations with you should you need it.

Thank you for your time.

amber Boggs  
 California

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10/1/2010

**Solita Griffis**

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From: Pam Gregory  
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 11:13 AM  
To: Solita Griffis  
Subject: FW: FCC Reply Comments Section 255

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OCT 15 2010

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

-----Original Message-----

From: Jamal Mazrui  
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 9:53 AM  
To: Pam Gregory  
Subject: FW: FCC Reply Comments Section 255

-----Forwarded Message-----

From: Mika Pyyhkala [mailto:pyyhkala@gmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 12:00 AM  
To: Jamal Mazrui  
Subject: FCC Reply Comments Section 255

The Association of Blind Citizens substantively agrees with comments submitted by the American Council of the Blind, American Foundation for the Blind, National Federation of the Blind, and Kielly Pierce.

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List A B C D E

OCT 15 2010

Comments to FCC on Section 255 CG docket #10145 Cell Phone Accessibility  
 From: Teresa Myers [Xmeybrlz@att.net]  
 Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2010 10:54 PM  
 To: Jamal Mazrui  
 Subject: Comments to FCC on Section 255, CG docket #10145 Cell Phone Accessibility

Special Communications Commission  
 Office of the Secretary

I am totally blind and have lost more than half of my hearing in each ear. I Cannot use a phone which doesn't have: 1. tactile buttons, separated from one another and raised above the level of the number pad. 2. Amplification which is strong, or Braille, my language of literacy.

This means I cannot use most cell phones. I haven't yet seen (or Felt, if you prefer) one I could use. My computer uses a screen reader and I use headphones with it, so I can turn the volume loud without blasting others out of the house. I took Braille notes all through college

I cannot even use an unamplified land line. Yet I am in vocational training at present, attempting to start a very small business to first supplement my Social Security Disability Insurance, and then hopefully enable me to stop receiving it in order just to live.

If people with Government responsibilities, such as yourselves want to see people with disabilities "off the welfare roles" then we Must ask you for some help.

At present I have great difficulty going anywhere alone, not because I cannot travel, but because there are no phones I can use to call for a ride to get from one place to another.

We who wish to be contributing members of society need cell phones with: amplification, screen readers, and tactile buttons. We also need the ability to make TTY calls, using Braille, at no extra charge.

Those deaf-blind people who still have some vision need magnified screen technology incorporated into their cell phones.

As I attempt a second career the world depends more and more on connectivity and communication. I am respectfully requesting that you who have the power to do so give us a level playing field by making all cell phones accessible to all Americans who could use them.

Never have I begrudged the small fee on my phone bill to pay for our state's "relay" service for people who are deaf. Nor have I chosen Not to give a small amount when paying my utility bill to help others who cannot. I am asking that you who Can do so, request that my fellow citizens help those of us who are blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind to succeed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Teresa Myers  
 from Springfield, Mo.

**Solita Griffis**

**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 30, 2010 8:56 AM  
**To:** Solita Griffis  
**Subject:** FW:

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**OCT 15 2010**

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

6 of 10

**From:** Mae Mullen [mailto:mauvebear@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wed 9/29/2010 11:34 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:**

Dear Pam,

My name is Mae Mullen, I am from Seattle, WA. I have low vision. I use Blackberry to communicate but I have difficult seeing small screen and reading small prints. There are few lack of cellulars phone access so need to improve access includes as follow:

magnification programs

optional colors for background.

cellular capabilities for TTY calls since landline phone are slowly becoming obsolete.

Thanks for your consideration.

Mae Lynn Mullen.

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9/30/2010

Solita Griffis

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From: Pam Gregory  
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 10:47 AM  
To: Solita Griffis  
Subject: FW: docket 10-145

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OCT 15 2010

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

-----Original Message-----

From: annelie robledo [mailto:acer2772@satx.rr.com]  
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 1:08 PM  
To: Pam Gregory  
Cc: annelie robledo  
Subject: docket 10-145

To begin I would like to say that I am happy that finally this day has come that the fcc is even considering our concerns as a disabled community.

My opinion is that accessibility should be included in any item that is manufactured as electronic devices go. I as a blind person shouldn't have to spend more money to make the device accessible. I applaud Apple for finally giving me the freedom to use a cell phone like any other person with out the extra cost.

I am very disappointed that devices such as Tivo or my satellite box are not accessible. It is funny the U.s. came up with descriptive video but the UK has implemented it excellently. That if I want a dvs movie I have to pay extra. This is a very sad state of affairs when businesses never consider the disabled because it will cut into there profits.

Sincerely,

Annelie Robledo

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**Mikelle Morra**

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**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 12:14 PM  
**To:** Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: Guidelines for accessible cellphones

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**OCT 15 2010**

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Need address

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Renee M. Zelickson [mailto:spaceride@me.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 02, 2010 5:25 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** Guidelines for accessible cellphones

I am writing to you as a tax paying American Citizen who happens to be blind, and a user of the Verizon Cell phones, and I do not feel that I have to spend a fortune on a screen reader because the only phone they do have that talks is so limited that I have to ask someone on the street to help me use it.

Renee M. Zelickson  
renee@zel.net

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**Mikelle Morra**

**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 12:00 PM  
**To:** Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: Cell Phone Accessibility

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OCT 15 2010

Another address needed

Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of the Secretary

**From:** Alysa Chadow [mailto:achadow@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 03, 2010 6:54 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** Cell Phone Accessibility

Dear Ms. Gregory,

My name is Alysa Chadow, and I legally blind. I recently purchased a Nokia "Smart Phone" through the National Center for Customers with Disabilities, a service of AT&T, which is my cell phone carrier. I have always been very happy with AT&T, especially when it bought out Cingular, subsequently improving the quality of its service.

However, using a cell phone has not been easy for me even with the existence of the NCCD. Five years ago when I purchased a Nokia and software for allowing it to speak, I paid nearly \$400 for these two items; fortunately I work, and could afford these items as a result. I have now upgraded to a "smart phone," but the phone is smarter than I at this point. I still need sighted assistance while learning to use the device, although the user guide is on disc. This phone and software were only \$178-far cheaper than my Nokia of 5 years ago. Nokia is the number 1 cell phone maker in the world today, but it would be far easier for those in my position if the voice was built right in and could be activated when needed. I don't want to knock having this phone-it was my decision to buy it, after all-but my hesitation to do so would not be there if universal design was incorporated into these phones.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely yours,  
 Alysa Chadow

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10/4/2010

OCT 15 2010

**Mikelle Morra**Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

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**From:** Jo Adams [madams11@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 06, 2010 9:53 AM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** Phone Acc

My name is martha adams. I have a Verison Haven phone. I am legally blind from RP. My problems with ~~the~~ phone are: Poor software with pronuncion of words and names in English. Hard to attach to charger to phone; Keypad makes it difficult to text, there are ten symbols on the number one. I appreciate your efforts in making mobile phones more user friendly for the blind. Martha Adams

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10/7/2010



OCT 15 2010

**Mikelle Morra**Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

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**From:** pamlteach [pamlteach@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2010 7:47 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** accessible cell phones

Hi, I am responding to the request for information on accessible cell phones. My name is Pamela Loch and my mailing address is: 11 Marshall Ave. Hopkinton, MA. 01748. The cg docket number is 10-145. This summer I purchased a new phone from Verizon that is totally accessible for me. I purchased the Samsung Haven. It has the ability to read everything on the screen and all the pull down menus. I am very happy with the phone and the services thus far. Before purchasing this phone I used a Cingular phone that was not really accessible for most blind people. Also verizon gave me free information access for my account.. I hope this information is helpful to you. Pam Loch

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10/7/2010

## Solita Griffis

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**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2010 7:43 AM  
**To:** Solita Griffis; Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: cell phones for disabled

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**From:** Judith Bron [mailto:jbron@optonline.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 5:55 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** cell phones for disabled

I'm legally blind and cannot use my husband's, or anyone else's cell phone. I would need a cell phone with larger buttons containing numbers and commands like send. It would also help if audio feedback were available for the commands. Obviously a raised 5 is essential. I don't know how to or understand texting. If I were to learn texting the messages coming through would have to be audible. Judith Bron

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10/15/2010

## Solita Griffis

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**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2010 3:23 PM  
**To:** Solita Griffis; Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: guidelines for accessible cell phones for blind individuals!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Pamela Berman [mailto:pamelacberman@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2010 2:55 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** guidelines for accessible cell phones for blind individuals!

I'm blind & want an accessible cell phone like the I Phone with U S Cellular & all carriers!! When will this happen?

Sincerely,  
-Pam Berman-  
If you know someone who is blind, please tell them about Guide Dogs.  
<http://www.guidedogs.com>

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## Solita Griffis

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From: Pam Gregory  
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 9:38 AM  
To: Solita Griffis; Mikelle Morra  
Subject: FW: Accessible cell Phones

-----Original Message-----

From: Kim Brown [mailto:kim.brown@gpaea.k12.ia.us]  
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 9:36 AM  
To: Pam Gregory  
Subject: Accessible cell Phones

H i,

I would like to place my comments regarding CG Docket No. 10-145.

I wanted to purchase an accessible cell phone, but in order to do this, I have to pay around \$300.00 for the speech output software. I would love to be able to look at cell phones, and not have to check to see if it is compatible with the speech software.

Many phones may have a few items that are somewhat accessible, but the speech software makes texting, emailing, and use of the internet totally accessible. Just a mere \$300.00 to do this.

Please help those us with disabilities have the same opportunities as our sighted peers.

Thank you.

--

Kim Brown  
GPAEA Itinerant Vision Teacher

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## Solita Griffis

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**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2010 7:38 AM  
**To:** Solita Griffis; Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: Story About Non-Accessible Cell Phones

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**From:** XXXX [mailto:briancoppola@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 15, 2010 12:35 AM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Cc:** brianCoppola@comcast.net; joy-bar@cox.net  
**Subject:** Re: Story About Non-Accessible Cell Phones

Dear Ms. Gregory,

My name is Brian J. Coppola. I am a 46-year-old man who is legally blind and hard of hearing. In the past, I have been in touch with AT&T regarding Accessible Cell phones for people with visual impairments. To make a long story short. I was connected with their disability office and they told me that I would have to by one of the symbarian phones or another type that uses Mobile Speak. Here is the catch. As well as buying the cell phone, I also have to buy per their policy, the accessible software to use the phone. This means that a blind person has to pay more than a sighted person would have to for a cell phone purchase. This would be true even if the promotional offer for a cell phone was free, because the blind person would still have to buy the accessible software, instead of having regulations set that would make these mobile phone manufacturers have to make the phones accessible by building into it screen reading and screen magnification programs so that a legally blind person can use the phone on a level equal and comparable to that of other non-visual handicapped cell phone users.

I would also like to speak with you on making some form of regulations that would also require cell phones to be made hearing aid accessible by the manufacturers. I and someone else wears hearing aids and it is hard to hear with hearing aids on to be able to speak to someone on a cell phone.

It would be greatly appreciated if the FCC can please look into these matters and possibly pass some regulations regarding wireless services for both visually impaired and hearing impaired individuals. This would be a great step forward to leveling the playing field for cell phone access for all. I thank you and the FCC in advance for your serious consideration in this matter. Have a nice day.

Sincerely Yours,

*Brian J. Coppola*

Brian J. Coppola

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10/15/2010

**Solita Griffis**

**From:** Pam Gregory  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 10:53 AM  
**To:** Solita Griffis; Mikelle Morra  
**Subject:** FW: cell phone accessibility

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**From:** Jean McClure [mailto:bmcclure3@nc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 7:48 PM  
**To:** Pam Gregory  
**Subject:** cell phone accessibility

Hello.

This message refers to Docket Number, CG Docket No. 10-145. My full name is William Wilson McClure, Jr. My friends and associates call me Bill. I am totally blind, and have been so since birth. I have been a cellular phone user since 1993. My current cell phone provider is Verizon Wireless. When I first became a cell phone user, the telephones had raised buttons that were almost as easy for me to use as the landline telephones in my house. However, over the years as cell phones have become more versatile, they have become increasingly difficult for me and other totally blind people to use. In an effort to build more features into their phones, manufacturers have apparently chosen to save space, and perhaps money, by the use of flat screens rather than raised buttons. This makes many phones impossible for blind people to use.

I work as a self-employed piano tuner and am employed by Garner United Methodist Church in Garner, NC as the church Organist. A reliable cell phone has become an essential tool for me, especially in my piano tuning business.

Many of the cell phones currently available from Verizon Wireless are impossible for me to use because they have flat panels for their controls rather than raised buttons which I can easily feel to access the numbers on the phone. They also require extra fees for text messaging and other features which are totally useless to me as a totally blind person. Telephones are important communication tools to blind people. I hope that all cell phone manufacturers will be strongly encouraged, if not required, to offer at least one phone that is a basic phone with raised buttons to make it easily operated by blind or visually impaired people.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion. I hope that this information will be helpful to you in your efforts to make cell phones more accessible to, and usable by blind and visually impaired people.

Sincerely,

Bill McClure

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